



SAN ANTONIO POLICE DEPARTMENT

Office of the Chief ★ Public Information Office ★ 214 W. Nueva St. ★ San Antonio, Texas 78207
Office (210)207-7579 ★ Fax (210)207-7567 ★ Dispatcher (210)207-7484

Contact: Officer Al Ballew

Date: October 17, 2001

Release No. 01-140

NEWS RELEASE

EVADING ARREST - CUSTODIAL DEATHS

On October 17, 2001, at approximately 3:15 a.m., a San Antonio Police Officer was in pursuit of a suspect vehicle when the driver lost control and crashed into a utility pole on Callaghan Rd. between Evers Rd. and Bandera Rd. (SAPD Case 01-695016)

The preliminary investigation indicates that while on routine patrol, 32 year old, Officer Rafael Trinidad, a four year patrol officer, was on routine patrol and observed a black Dodge Neon traveling on Fredericksburg Rd. Officer Trinidad observed the vehicle to be occupied by two male subjects. The driver failed to signal while turning and was crossing into other lanes. At Callaghan Rd. and Babcock Rd., the officer attempted to stop the vehicle for the traffic violations and possible DWI. The driver suddenly accelerated and began evading arrest.

The driver of the vehicle continued on Callaghan Rd. at a high rate of speed. At the intersection of Callaghan Rd. and Evers Rd., the driver lost control of the vehicle and left the roadway striking a utility pole and concrete post. The driver and passenger suspects died at the scene of the accident.

The suspect vehicle was reported stolen at approximately 2:45 a.m. on this date. (SAPD Case 01-695026). No other persons were injured in the accident. The suspects in this case have not been identified. This case is being investigated as a Custodial Death/Evading Arrest.

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE